

Gimme Shelter

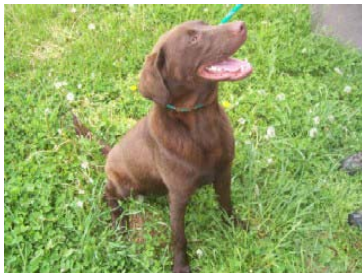
News from the Loudoun County Animal Shelter

Loudoun County Department of
Animal Care & Control

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And the Winner Is...



...Loudoun County Animal Care & Control! We are proud to announce that our Canine Companion Readiness Program (CCRP) is a winner of an achievement award from the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo). This is the second year in a row that a Department program has been honored by VACo.

The CCRP was created in 2006 to address the challenges of evaluating behavior in dogs in a shelter environment, while also ensuring that they remain "adoptable" for as long as possible in the inherently

high stress sheltering environment. Many dogs do not adapt well to shelter life, and over time, lose their ability to be good family companions.

The program begins when the dog enters the shelter, and includes opportunities to evaluate the dog's behavior and determine the most suitable placement for the dog, while also enriching the dog's experience at the shelter through training and socialization.

This innovative program promotes not only adoptability, but canine enrichment and proper placement of shelter dogs. Most often, the best place for a dog is in a home. But sometimes dogs are more suited to become working dogs, and the CCRP has helped to place dogs with the Arlington Police Department and the Metropolitan Transit Authority. The CCRP has also assisted in placing dogs with the US Customs Department's "Beagle Brigade" – an elite group of animals that helps to sniff out contraband at airports.

Since the CCRP began, the number of dogs euthanized at the shelter has decreased, along with the number of adopted dogs that are returned to the shelter. The program has been a great success, and continues to grow. The entire staff has been involved in different aspects of the program, and the VACo award is a testament to their hard work.

Watch us on FOX 5



You can see one aspect of the Canine Companion Readiness Program live on the FOX 5 11:00AM newscast on **Friday, August 3.**

Animal Care & Control staff and animals will be featured on the newscast to discuss clicker training and positive pet reinforcement, one of the hallmarks of the CCRP's enrichment program.

Be sure to tune in to see Loudoun's finest canines in action!

36 Pets in 40 Hours

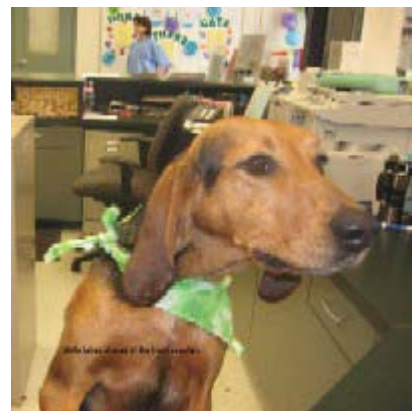
In June, Animal Care & Control celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Animal Shelter with a 40 hour adopt-a-thon. Homeward Bound 2007: Adopt Around the Clock, was a lot of work, a lot of fun, and most importantly a great success!

The doors opened at 8:00am on Friday, June 29, and when they closed 40 hours later, at midnight Saturday night, **36 animals had found new homes.** Four dogs, 27 cats, 1 guinea pig, 1 bird, 1 rabbit, 2 goats were all adopted during the two day event. This total is

equivalent to the Shelter's average adoptions over a 2 week period.

The adopt-a-thon was a smashing success, thanks to the hard work of the Animal Care & Control staff and volunteers. Seventeen volunteers donated a total of 70 hours to the effort. And, the summer Junior Volunteer team worked tirelessly to help prepare in the week leading up to the event.

Thanks to everyone who came to the Adopt-a-thon and especially to those that adopted a pet. If you didn't make it, come visit today!



Bella spends time at the front counter during the 40 hour adopt-a-thon.

C.A.R.E. Keeps Growing

Animal Care & Control's award winning C.A.R.E program is dedicated to providing pet owners in need with financial assistance, goods, and services to enhance the quality of life for their companion animals while keeping pets in loving, caring homes.

C.A.R.E. was created to provide food, housing, medical, and spay/neuter assistance to citizens of Loudoun County who are elderly, seriously ill, injured, or in a situation where they cannot afford to care for their pet.

In FY07, C.A.R.E. provided services to nearly 600 pets. This includes recipients of food, treats, and toys at

the annual Holiday Pet Pantry, as well as pets who receive regular food deliveries and emergency medical care.

C.A.R.E. is maintained primarily through donations from individuals, groups, and businesses. We are always in need of dog and cat food for program recipients.

Donations can be brought to the Animal Shelter during normal business hours. Or, pick up can be arranged for large donations.

For more information on C.A.R.E., visit our website, www.loudoun.gov/animals. You can find more information on C.A.R.E. services, hours and locations for donations, or download an application for assistance.



A new doghouse courtesy of C.A.R.E.!

Employee of the Month

Kristen Clark is July's Employee of the Month! Kristen has been with the Department since December 2006.

Kristen is being recognized for her excellent and unselfish work as an Animal Care Technician. Her efforts to accomplish her duties and then in other areas is highly commendable. She is always willing to go the extra mile to ensure animals are cared for, especially reptiles, and always provides assistance and support for her co-workers. Her participation and follow-up work with the

clicker training program, willingness to assist other staff in doing various tasks such as dog incomings and cleaning the cat clinic is an example of teamwork. Kristen always shows a positive attitude, commitment and work ethic, and serves as an example to other staff. Her love and commitment to the animals is greatly appreciated.

Thank you Kristen for all you do!

Congratulations Kristen!



What We're Up To...

Pet Parent Pride

Adopting a pet is an exciting experience, and adopters want to tell the world all about their new furry friend. We're making that a little easier with the new Pet Parent Pack.

While supplies last, all new adopters will receive a Free Pet Parent Pack with their adoption. Along with other goodies, the Pet Parent Pack includes a "New Pet Parent" T Shirt so that you can tell everyone that you've adopted a shelter pet.

Statistically Speaking...

Did you know in FY07...

- Animal Control Officers received **4,260** requests for service.
- **1,168** animals were adopted from the Shelter. This includes **593** cats & kittens, **260** dogs & puppies, and **38** rabbits!
- Volunteers donated a total **2,542** hours of service.

Great job everyone!

Reaching Out to the Region

Animal Care & Control's Community Outreach Manager **Laura Danis** has been appointed to chair the Humane Education/Public Relations Subcommittee for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's Animal Services Committee. Laura will be leading this subcommittee to establish goals that will benefit animal shelters across the metro region - including common message public service announcements and best practice humane education programs.